

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

Claims 1-23. (Cancelled)

24. (New) A method of producing a recombinant phytase having modified activity, said method comprising:

a) subjecting to error-prone amplification a nucleic acid comprising a sequence encoding a polypeptide that is at least 98% identical to SEQ ID No. 2, to produce a product of error-prone amplification;

b) transforming a host cell with an expression vector comprising the product of error-prone amplification, wherein the host cell is cultured under conditions suitable for said cell to express said product of error-prone amplification, thereby producing the recombinant phytase.

25. (New) The method of Claim 24, wherein said host cell is *Bacillus subtilis*.

26. (New) The method of Claim 24, further comprising:

c) recovering said recombinant phytase.